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Outline of Contents
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History XIII
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HISTORY XIII

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THE WESTWARD MOVEMENT

Reel 4

TRANS-MISSISSIPPI TRAILS

1 Reel

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Map - outline of United States, then close-up western 2/3 in relief.

By the Louisiana Purchase, the United States controlled the entire Mississippi Valley

Map of United States marking out boundaries of Louisiana Territory and indicating main tributaries of Mississippi River. (The region controlled through river highways.)

Settlers flocked to the fertile valley (1612-1637)

Map showing progress of the frontier and areas of settlement in the west.

Because - - -

(1) Indians were subdued there

Animated map showing where Indians were defeated.

- (2) Erie Canal was opened (1825) and

(3) the Great Lakes furnished a northern highway

The Erie Canal is drawn on the map and the Great Lakes indicated.

- (4) Navigable streams provided convenient highways

Several rivers are located, as the Missouri, Yellowstone, Platte, Arkansas, Colorado, and Gila.

The map indicates the way settlements followed rivers.

In general, northerners settled the new North and southerners the new South - -

Because of - - -

- (1) Geographical location of main routes
- (2) Agricultural demands of each group
- (3) Political line drawn by Missouri Compromise (1820)

Northern routes are shown, then the southern. By placards and moving lines, the map shows how agricultural demands influenced the movement. Then the line of the Missouri Compromise is shown.

Thus the fur-trading post of St. Louis - almost on the border line - became an important center of population

St. Louis is indicated on the map.

Settlers also streamed into the Mexican province of Texas

Texas is shown on map of North America, labeled first as a part of Mexico.

A placard appears -

"Mexicans gave liberal land grants to American settlers"
and the location of these grants is outlined around Austin.

The placard changes to

"Over 20,000 Americans had moved into Texas by 1830"
and the four main roads by which they traveled are drawn on the map.

Then the placard changes to

"Texas became independent of Mexico, 1835"
and the map changes accordingly.

Indians and arid land were a temporary bar to direct westward movement

Indian tribes and arid land are located.

In 1840 the frontier was near the 95th meridian

The map shows the frontier by line according to United States census, 1880, V. 1 for 1840 map. Areas of settlement are shown by cross-hatching.

The first sustained movement beyond Texas was over the famous "Santa Fe Trail"

This trail is shown by a line moving from Independence, Mo. west to Arkansas River, thence along that stream to mountains and thence south to Santa Fe, N. M.

In places the trail led through wonderful mountain country

Motion pictures of this country.

Because most of its citizens were Americans. Texas was annexed to the United States (1845)

The last Texas map changes its placard from

"Independent" to "Annexed".

Dispute over the Texas boundary caused the United States to fight Mexico (1846-1848)

Map shows Texas and part of Mexico and United States and pointer indicates Nueces River and placard appears

"Mexico claimed north to here"

Then Rio Grande River is labeled and placard appears:

"United States claimed south to here".

The United States won the war in three brief campaigns

The map is continued and the three campaigns are shown by animated lines: following each is its placard.

"(1) Taylor occupied disputed area"

"(2) Kearney and Fremont captured New Mexico and California country".

"(3) Scott captured Mexico City"

Placard:

"Boundary established by treaty with Mexico (1848)

Map shows United States; New Mexico, Utah, and California territories are flashed in, labeled "Ceded to U. S."

The Gadsden Purchase (1853) rounded out United States boundaries prior to the Civil War

All these successive acquisitions of territory are indicated by adding shaded portions to the map and flashing in the names of each.

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